

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1979

ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016

Disputes between Coal Management and Consumers

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- a. whether the number of cases in various courts is increasing due to the disputes between the coal management and coal consumers, workers and others in Coal India Limited (CIL) and each of its ancillaries;
- b. if so, the details of the current/ pending cases in the CIL and each of its ancillaries during the last three years, year and company - wise;
- c. the amount spent on advocates and other legal issues by the CIL and each of its ancillaries during the said period, year-wise;
- d. the winning percentage of these cases by the CIL and each of its ancillaries;
- e. whether several such minor cases are lying pending in the courts in which the CIL and its ancillaries have spent much more than the demand of the petitioners; and
- f. if so, the details thereof and the effective steps taken to reduce the amount of money being spent by the said companies on litigation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b) As per the information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), the number of court cases pending in Coal India Limited including the disputes between management and coal companies, workers, etc. for the last three years and current year are given as under :

S.No Year No. of cases pending

1. 2013 38
2. 2014 37
3. 2015 40
6. 2016 09

Details of pending court cases in CIL is given at Annexure.

(c) The amount spent by the Coal India Limited (CIL) on advocates and other legal issues, year-wise, is given below:

S.No Year Legal expenses (rupees in crore)

1. 2013-14 4.75
2. 2014-15 4.66
3. 2015-16 9.00 (subject to reconciliation since accounts in the process of finalization for this fiscal year.)

(d) to (f) Out of a total of 85 cases disposed of during the last three years, the outcome was not adverse in 67 cases. Court cases are not distinguished as minor or major cases, and all cases are treated /contested with importance. Further, to resolve the disputes between the coal companies and consumers, an Alternate Dispute Resolution Mechanism (ADRM) has been introduced in the Ministry of Coal for out of court settlement.